AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

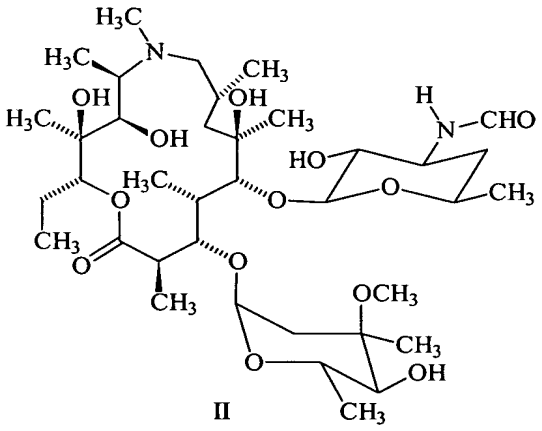
The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. Cancelled.

2. Cancelled

3. (Previously presented) An azithromycin degradation product having substantially the following structure II:



II

4. Cancelled.

5. Cancelled.

6. Cancelled.

7. (Withdrawn) A method to analyze azithromycin purity comprising:

assaying azithromycin using an HPLC to determine the presence of azithromycin degradation products;

identifying azithromycin degradation products; and

quantifying the azithromycin degradation products.

8. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 7, wherein the identification step comprises searching and identifying on the HPLC spectrum azithromycin degradation products having a relative retention time of about 0.22, 0.26, and 0.80.

9. (Withdrawn) A method to determine azithromycin stability comprising:

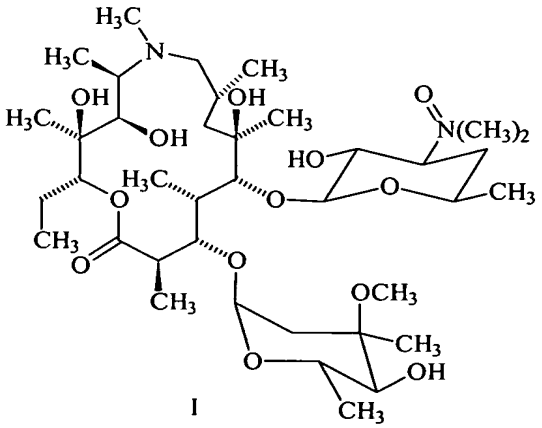
assaying azithromycin using HPLC to determine the presence of azithromycin degradation products;

identifying the azithromycin degradation products; and

quantifying the azithromycin degradation products.

10. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 9, wherein the identification step comprises searching and identifying on the HPLC spectrum azithromycin degradation products having a relative retention time of about 0.22, 0.26, and 0.80.

11. (Currently amended) A method of determining the presence and amount of an impurity in azithromycin comprising ~~of using~~ determining the presence of an azithromycin degradation product of claim 3 and/or a compound of Formula I, wherein the determination is performed with ~~as~~ a reference standard having the degradation product of claim 3 and/or a compound of Formula I; and quantifying ~~to quantify~~ the amount of the azithromycin degradation product in a sample of azithromycin using the reference standard, wherein the compound of Formula I has the following structure:



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